

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 85

By Berke

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Alan L. Cates on receiving the Harry Weill Zealous Practice of Law Award from the Chattanooga Bar Association.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed their duties with uncommon devotion, enthusiasm, and industry and have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Alan L. Cates is one such estimable individual who received the 2010 Harry Weill Zealous Practice of Law Award on January 26, 2011; and

WHEREAS, presented by the Chattanooga Bar Association, this prestigious honor is bestowed annually upon “a member of the bar whose energetic and enthusiastic service to clients is worthy of praise, and whose polite and dignified manner, even in the most contentious situations, provides a model of civility that is worthy of emulation”; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cates serves with acumen and alacrity as a partner at the law firm of Husch Blackwell, LLP, expertly counseling his clients in taxation, estate planning, business succession planning, and probate and trust issues, as well as advising tax-exempt organizations; and

WHEREAS, choosing to complete his education in the great state of Tennessee, Alan Cates earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1967 and his Juris Doctor from the University of Tennessee College of Law in 1972; and

WHEREAS, prior to entering private practice in 1975, Mr. Cates worked assiduously as the Planned Giving Officer for the University of Tennessee, in which capacity he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike due to the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, this distinguished scholar and celebrated attorney has shared his vast knowledge and sage insights with his colleagues and the public in a variety of roles; for more than twenty-five years, he has been an indispensable faculty member at the National Planned Giving Institute at the College of William and Mary and has traveled across the country making presentations on a wide range of legal topics for such prominent organizations and institutions as the Tennessee Bar Association, Tennessee Society of CPAs, Georgia Institute of Technology, Texas A&M University, and the University of New Haven; and

WHEREAS, an esteemed member of the legal profession, Alan Cates is an American College of Trust and Estate Counsel Fellow, former president and Fellow of the Chattanooga Bar Association, Tennessee Bar Association Fellow, and member of the Tennessee Probate Study Committee, Chattanooga Estate Planning Council, Chattanooga Planned Giving Council, and Chattanooga Tax Practitioners; he is admitted to practice law in Tennessee, the United States Tax Court, and the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being a accomplished and conscientious attorney, Mr. Cates is also a dedicated civic leader who has rendered sterling service as the President of First Christian Church-Disciples of Christ and as President of the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Cates has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* for the past three years, was named a 2010 Lawyer of the Year in the area of Trusts and Estates, and has been named a Mid-South Super Lawyer for the past four years; and

WHEREAS, utilizing his singular skills as an attorney, Alan Cates exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career as an attorney, Mr. Cates has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the universal approbation of his colleagues, clients, and the good people of Chattanooga; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Alan L. Cates upon his receipt of the Harry

Weill Zealous Practice of Law Award from the Chattanooga Bar Association, applaud him for his ongoing commitment to the law and its most noble precepts, and wish him much continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.